

Attorney Docket No. P12194

LISTING OF CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1-10. (Canceled)

- 1        11. (Previously Presented) An arrangement for distributing IP-addresses in a
- 2        General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) network, said arrangement comprising:
- 3              a global processor in the GPRS network that stores a global pool of available IP-
- 4        addresses; and
- 5              a plurality of application processors in external networks connected to the GPRS
- 6        network, each of the application processors being adapted to:
- 7                  store blocks of IP-addresses in an internal pool of IP-addresses, wherein
- 8        the size of the blocks of IP-addresses in the internal pool of each application processor
- 9        is dynamically adjusted to minimize the amount of traffic required to request and
- 10      distribute IP-addresses between the global processor and the application processors
- 11      while ensuring that a sufficient number of blocks is available to serve all requests for
- 12      additional IP-addresses;
- 13              supply an IP-address from the application processor's internal pool to a
- 14        user upon request; and
- 15              request an additional IP-address from the global processor when the
- 16        application processor's internal pool is empty or nearly empty;
- 17              wherein the global processor is adapted to transfer from the global pool to a
- 18        requesting application processor, a block of IP-addresses comprising a plurality of IP-
- 19        addresses in response to a request for an additional IP-address from the requesting
- 20        application processor.

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1           12. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 11, wherein a  
2 given application processor is adapted to release a block of IP-addresses to users and  
3 notify the global processor of the release, if the number of IP-addresses in the internal  
4 pool of the given application processor exceeds a predefined limit.

1           13. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 12, wherein  
2 the predefined limit is equal to two times the size of the block of IP-addresses last  
3 received from the global processor.

1           14. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 11, wherein  
2 the global processor is arranged to release addresses that have not been used in a  
3 preceding interval of time.

1           15. (Previously Presented) The arrangement according to claim 11, wherein  
2 each application processor is arranged to store the internal pool of IP-addresses in a  
3 Random-Access Memory (RAM), and to make back-up copies of the internal pool on a  
4 persistent storage medium at regular intervals.

1           16. (Previously Presented) An arrangement for distributing resources in a  
2 network, said arrangement comprising:

3           a global processor in the network that stores a global pool of available resources;  
4 and

5           a plurality of application processors in external networks connected to the  
6 network, each of the application processors being adapted to:

7           store blocks of resources in an internal pool of resources, wherein the size  
8 of the blocks of resources in the internal pool of each application processor is  
9 dynamically adjusted to minimize the amount of traffic required to request and distribute  
10 resources between the global processor and the application processors while ensuring  
11 that a sufficient number of blocks is available to serve all requests for additional  
12 resources;

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13            supply a resource from the application processor's internal pool to a user  
14    upon request; and

15            request an additional resource from the global processor when the  
16    application processor's internal pool is empty or nearly empty;

17            wherein the global processor is adapted to transfer from the global pool to a  
18    requesting application processor, a block of resources comprising a plurality of  
19    resources in response to a request for an additional resource from the requesting  
20   application processor.

1            17. (Previously Presented) A method of distributing IP-addresses in a General  
2    Packet Radio Service (GPRS) network, said method comprising the steps of:

3            storing a global pool of available IP-addresses in a global processor in the GPRS  
4    network;

5            storing blocks of IP-addresses in an internal pool of IP-addresses in each  
6    of a plurality of application processors in external networks connected to the GPRS  
7    network, wherein the size of the blocks of IP-addresses in the internal pool of each  
8    application processor is dynamically adjusted to minimize the amount of traffic required  
9    to request and distribute IP-addresses between the global processor and the application  
10   processors while ensuring that a sufficient number of blocks is available to serve all  
11   requests for additional IP-addresses;

12            supplying IP-addresses from a given application processor's internal pool to  
13   users upon request;

14            requesting by the given application processor, an additional IP-address from the  
15   global processor when the given application processor's internal pool is empty or nearly  
16   empty; and

17            transferring from the global processor to a requesting application processor, a  
18   block of IP-addresses comprising a plurality of IP-addresses in response to a request  
19   for an additional IP-address from the requesting application processor.